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## FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

SPONSOR Taylor DATE TYPED 3/07/05 HB \_\_\_\_\_

SHORT TITLE Repeal Albuquerque Bernalillo Merger, CA SB SJR 8

ANALYST Ford

### APPROPRIATION

Appropriation Contained		Estimated Additional Impact		Recurring or Non-Rec	Fund Affected
FY05	FY06	FY05	FY06		
			\$40.0		General Fund

(Parenthesis ( ) Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

Duplicates  
HJR 14

### SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

#### Responses Received From

Department of Finance and Administration (DFA)

### SUMMARY

#### Synopsis of Bill

Senate Joint Resolution 8 proposes to repeal Article 10, Section 11 of the state constitution, which provides for the establishment of single urban governments. The effect would be to repeal the authority of the county of Bernalillo and the city of Albuquerque to merge into a single urban government. The proposed amendment is subject to voter approval.

#### Significant Issues

In November 2000, the state's voters ratified an amendment to the state constitution that provided a process by which the county of Bernalillo and the municipalities within the county could merge into a single urban county. The process requires submission of a proposed merger to the affected voters. In 2003 and again in 2004, area voters rejected the proposed merger.

**FISCAL IMPLICATIONS**

Senate Joint Memorial 8 would result in costs to the Secretary of State to place the constitutional amendment on the ballot. In 2004, an identical measure was introduced and the Secretary of State estimated costs of \$40 thousand to meet the necessary election procedures and requirements.

**CONFLICT, DUPLICATION, COMPANIONSHIP, RELATIONSHIP**

Senate Joint Resolution 8 duplicates House Joint Resolution 14.

**POSSIBLE QUESTIONS**

Given that voters in Bernalillo county must approve a merger before it can take place, is it necessary to amend the state constitution? Or does the voter-approval requirement currently in the constitution provide adequate safeguard against an unpopular merger?

**EF/yr**